

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	
DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY	ATT. DOCKET NO. 11861/1

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address, and citizenship are as stated below next to my name,

I believe I am an original, first, and joint inventor of the subject matter that is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled **PROCESS FOR THE PREPARATION OF 5-CARBOXYPTHALIDE**, the specification of which was filed on October 17, 2000 and was assigned Serial No. 09/690,301.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56(a).

#### PRIOR FOREIGN APPLICATION(S)

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, § 119(a)-(d) or §365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or §365(a) of any PCT International application which designated at least one country other than the United States, listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate or PCT International application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

COUNTRY	APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	DATE OF ISSUE (day, month, year)	PRIORITY CLAIMED UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 119
Italy	MI2000A 000050	18 January 2000		Yes

POWER OF ATTORNEY: As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorneys:

**Maria Luisa Palmese (Reg. No. 34,402)**

**BEST AVAILABLE COPY**

SEND CORRESPONDENCE, AND DIRECT TELEPHONE CALLS TO:

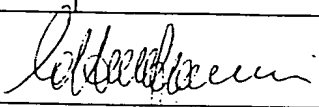
**Maria Luisa Palmese, Esq.  
KENYON & KENYON  
One Broadway  
New York, New York 10004  
(212) 425-7200 (phone)  
(212) 425-5288 (facsimile)**

I declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under § 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

FULL NAME OF INVENTOR	FAMILY NAME <b>DALL'ASTA</b>	FIRST GIVEN NAME <b>Leone</b>	SECOND GIVEN NAME
RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP	CITY <b>Milano</b>	STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY <b>Italy</b>	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP <b>Italy</b>
POST OFFICE ADDRESS	POST OFFICE ADDRESS <b>Via Friuli 11</b>	CITY <b>20135 Milano</b>	STATE & ZIP CODE/COUNTRY <b>Italy</b>
Signature <i>Leone Dall'Asta</i>		Date 21st December 2000	

FULL NAME OF INVENTOR	FAMILY NAME <b>CASAZZA</b>	FIRST GIVEN NAME <b>Umberto</b>	SECOND GIVEN NAME
RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP	CITY <b>Turate (Como)</b>	STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY <b>Italy</b>	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP <b>Italy</b>
POST OFFICE ADDRESS	POST OFFICE ADDRESS <b>Via Mazzini 7</b>	CITY <b>22078 Turate (Como)</b>	STATE & ZIP CODE/COUNTRY <b>Italy</b>
Signature <i>Umberto Casazza</i>		Date 21st December 2000	

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FULL NAME OF INVENTOR	FAMILY NAME <b>COTTICELLI</b>	FIRST GIVEN NAME <b>Giovanni</b>	SECOND GIVEN NAME
RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP	CITY <b>Cernusco Sul Naviglio (Milano)</b>	STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY <b>Italy</b>	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP <b>Italy</b>
POST OFFICE ADDRESS	POST OFFICE ADDRESS <b>Via Penati 8</b>	CITY <b>20063 Cernusco Sul Naviglio (Milano)</b>	STATE & ZIP CODE/COUNTRY <b>Italy</b>
Signature 		Date 21st December 2000	